

**Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

**MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES**

Survey No. B-4336

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

109 North Howard Street

and/or common

Chicken George

2. Location

street & number

109 N. Howard Street

☐ not for publication

city, town

Baltimore

☐ vicinity of

congressional district

Seventh

state

Maryland

county

Baltimore

3. Classification

Category

☐ district
☒ building(s)
☐ structure
☐ site
☐ object

Ownership

☐ public
☒ private
☐ both
Public Acquisition
☐ in process
☐ being considered
☒ not applicable

Status

☐ occupied
☒ unoccupied
☐ work in progress
Accessible
☐ yes: restricted
☐ yes: unrestricted
☒ no

Present Use

☐ agriculture
☒ commercial
☐ educational
☐ entertainment
☐ government
☐ industrial
☐ military
☐ museum
☐ park
☐ private residence
☐ religious
☐ scientific
☐ transportation
☐ other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name

The Gutman Realty Corp.

street & number

5518 Baltimore National Pike

telephone no.:

city, town

Baltimore

MD 21228
state and zip code

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.

Baltimore City Courthouse

RHB3449

street & number

100 N. Calvert Street, Room 610

folio 178

city, town

Baltimore

state

MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date

☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

pository for survey records

city, town

state

7. Description

Survey No. B-4336

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Resource Count: 1

This circa 1910 commercial building faces west on N. Howard Street and abuts two partywall structures. The four-story building is designed as a two-bay enframed window wall. The facade is built of whitish-grey brick with cast iron window surrounds in the window bays. The street frontage is 55' and the depth is 90'.

The first story was substantially altered during the third quarter of the 20th century. The facade is a glass curtain wall subdivided into twelve bays of plate glass. Metal mullions divide the large sheets of glass. Glass doors are located in the first, eighth, and twelfth bays. The entry in the eighth bay is the primary entrance. It is a double glass door with a fixed transom. A mock wood panelled signboard covers the facade between the first and second stories. The far north and south edges of the facade are covered with a veneer of whitish-grey tiles that are original to the building.

The upper stories are identical versions of each other. Brick piers runs up the edges and the middle of the building, dividing the facade into a two-bay enframed window wall. Each window bay contains a three-sided, bowed unit of three 1/1 sash windows. Pilasters divide the individual sash windows. The spandrels follow the same bowed pattern. They are embellished with recessed field panels with raised geometric designs applied in their centers. The third story spandrels are further elaborated with quarter round trim around the fields. Each window bay and connecting spandrels are recessed between the piers, further emphasizing the vertical rise of the building.

The shed roof is crowned by a bolding projecting cornice of ogee, bead, fillet and back band. A pair of scrolled brackets is positioned over each of the three piers. The cornice has a row of smaller scrolled modillions running between the brackets.

The top of the north wall is visible as it rises over its lower neighbor. The wall is laid in unglazed brick and has a corbelled stringcourse between the third and fourth stories. A brick heating flue runs up the wall.

The back (east) wall is laid in unglazed brick. It is six bays wide and four stories high with a raised cellar. The cellar and first story openings are bricked up, except for a loading dock in the fourth (north to south) bay. The second and third story windows are 6/6 sash. All the windows on the first, second, and third stories have three-brick soldier courses and stone sills. The fourth story 1/1 sash windows are shorter to accommodate the slope of the shed roof. A three-brick corbelled cornice runs between the north and south parapet walls.

8. Significance

Survey No. B-4336

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates circa 1910, 1970s Builder/Architect unknown

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D

and/or Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The architectural design of this four-story, two-bay building is an unusually tall and wide example of an enframed window wall commercial building. Architectural historian Richard Longstreth writes that the enframed window wall design was "most commonly used for retail stores" and that the design "reflects an effort to give greater order to the facade composition of small and moderate-sized commercial buildings."¹ In this case, the fenestration suggests more of a light manufacturing use to the upper stories. The groups of three large sash windows separated by non-bearing pilasters are divided into two bays by large, enframing wall piers; this suggests that the area behind the windows consists of broad, open floor space well-lit by natural light.

The ornamental use of glazed white brick, cast iron spandrels and bracketed overhanging eaves supply a decorative touch to the facade of this mixed commercial/manufacturing building. The simple form of these decorative elements, however, show a concern for achieving maximum decorative effect for minimal cost.

This building is one of the last examples of mixed commercial/manufacturing use in the district. Most of the 20th-century new projects were directed towards a retail commercial use, with manufacturing done elsewhere. The upper stories are now unused.

The first story has been remodelled circa 1970 with artificial wood siding and plate glass windows and doors. The fast food restaurant inside (now defunct) is indicative of the changing nature of the downtown area, with shoppers and office workers looking for a quick and inexpensive bite to eat.

¹ Longstreth, The Buildings of Main Street, pp. 69, 68.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. B-4336

Richard Longstreth, The Buildings of Main Street (Washington: Preservation Press, 1987).

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name Baltimore East Quad

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification _____

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Diane Shaworganization CHAP, Room 1037 date December 14, 1991street & number 417 E. Fayette Street telephone 301-396-4866city or town Baltimore state MD

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DHCP/DHCD
100 COMMUNITY PLACE
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023
301-514-7600

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DATA**HISTORIC CONTEXT:**

Geographic Organization:
Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Period:
Industrial/Urban Dominance, 1870-1930
Modern Period, 1930-present, alterations

Historic Period Themes:
Architecture
Economics

Resource Type:
Building

Historic Environment:
Urban

Historic Function and Use:
Commercial/manufacturing

Known Design Source:
None

S T.

AVE.

N. HOWARD

S T.

PARK

S T.

633

NOTICE

THIS IS A REAL PROPERTY PLAT AS PROVIDED
FOR UNDER ARTICLE 76(d) OF THE CITY CHARTER
IT IS COMPILED FROM TITLE AND OTHER

CITY OF BALTIMORE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

PROPERTY LOCATION DIVISION

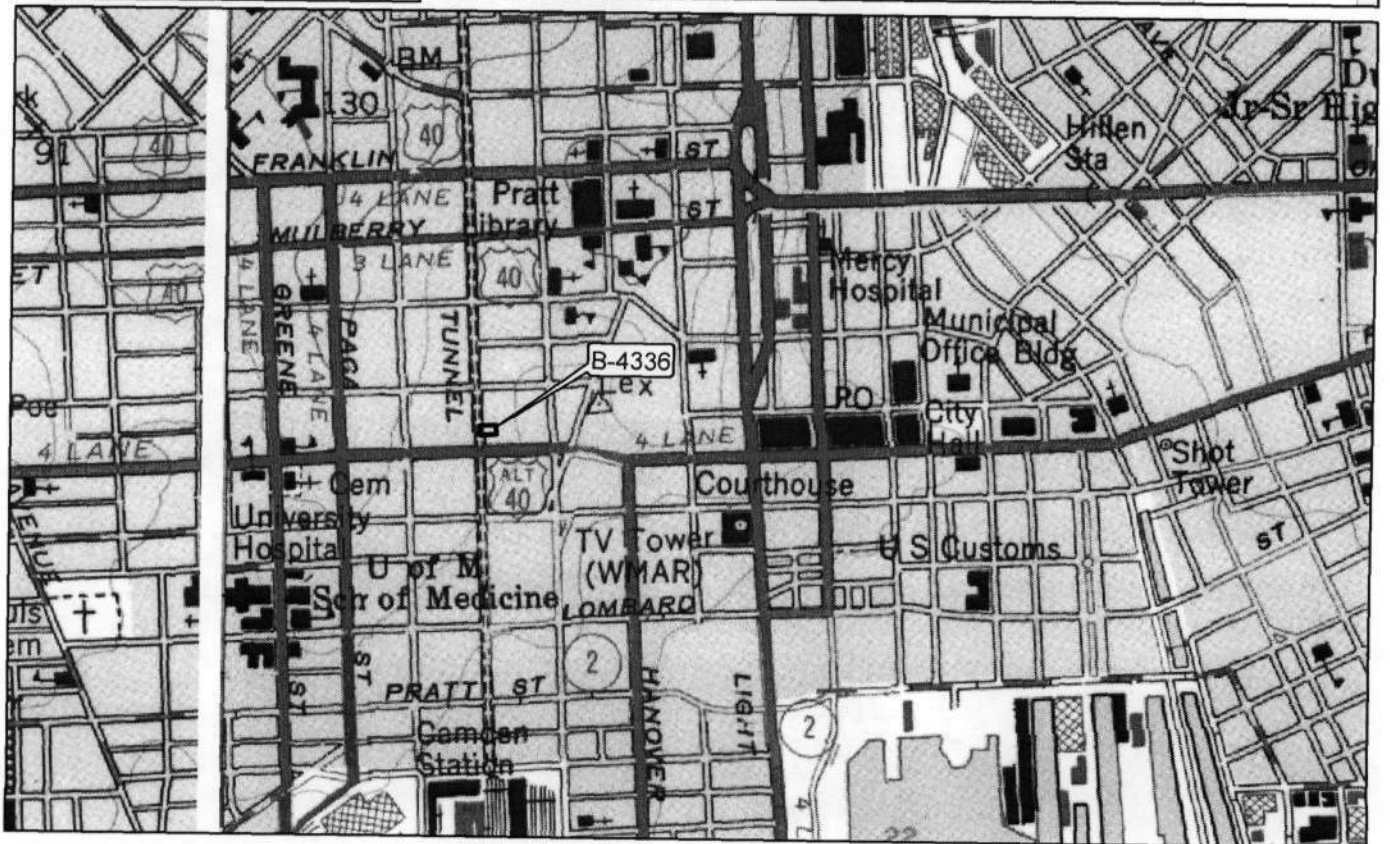
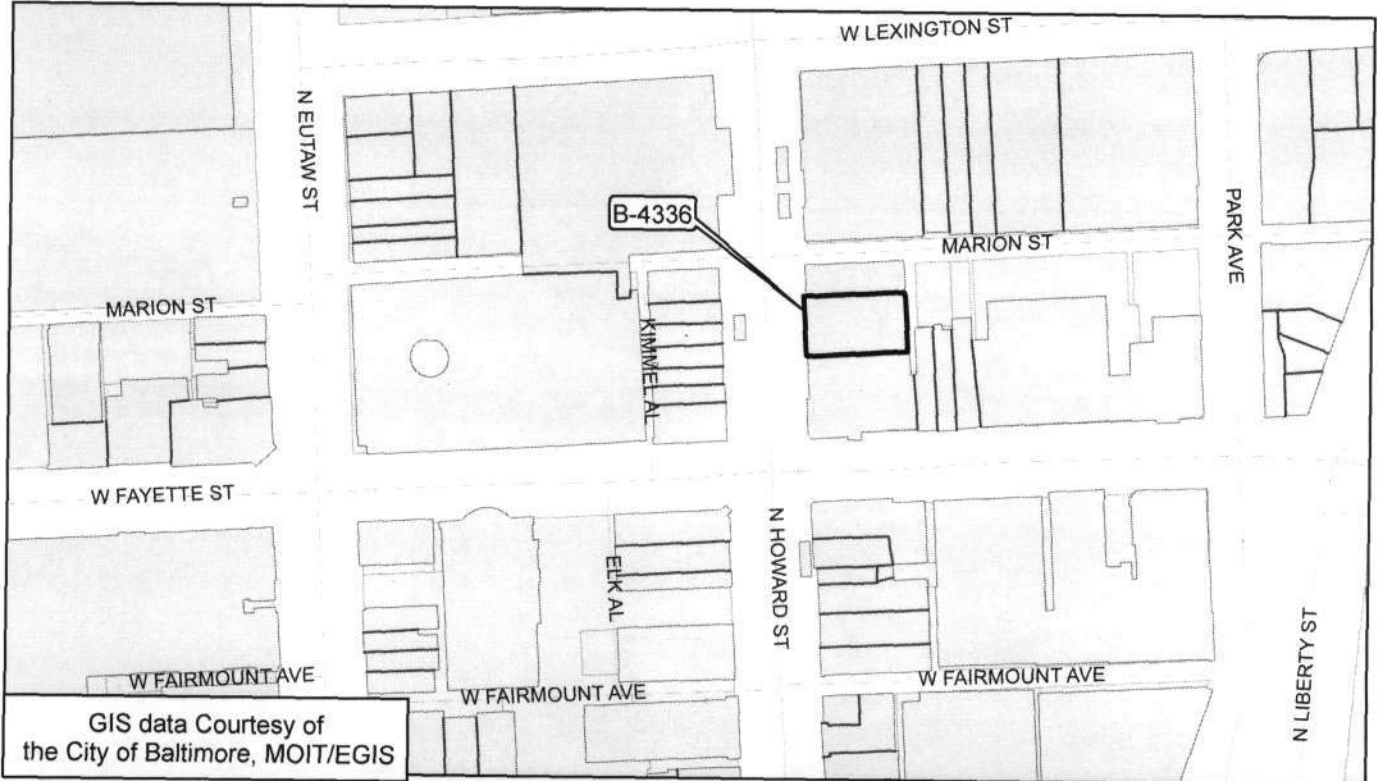
WARD 4 SECTION 10

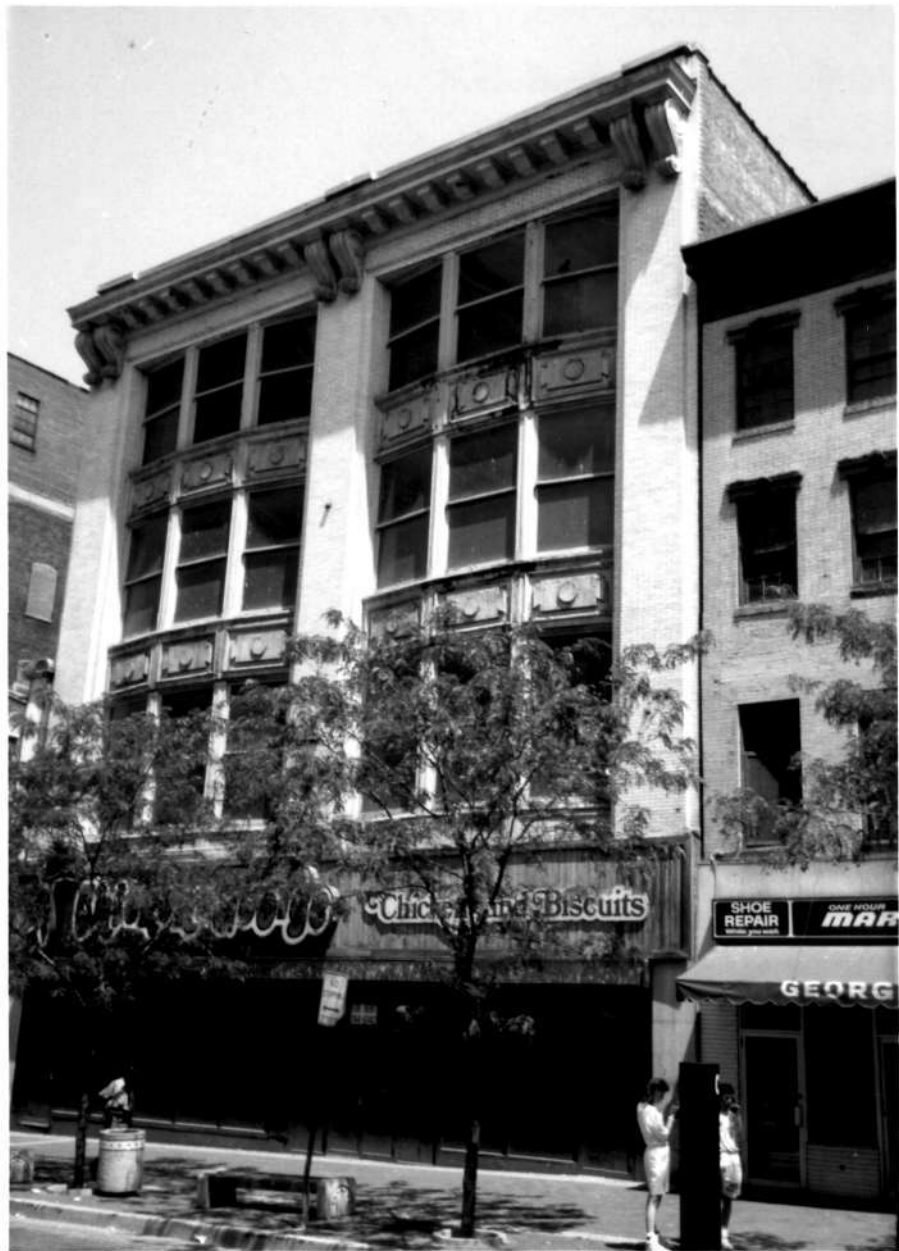
BLOCK 620

SCALE 1"=50'

DATE DEC 1987

B-4336
Chicken George
109 N. Howard Street
Block 0620, Lot 018
Baltimore City
Baltimore East Quad.





B-4334

109 N. Howard St.

Baltimore MD

Diane Shaw

8/9/

Maryland SHPO

Facade, west elevation

1/2



BOOTS & SHOES
IN SHOE FAIR

HOWARD FURNITURE CO.
123 - 11 N. HOWARD ST.

4 3 B-4336

109 N. Howard St. (rear)

Baltimore MD

Diane Shaw

8/9/

Maryland SHPO

Rear alley (east elevation)

2/2